GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2000
STATUS OF SUGAR INDUSTRY
MOHAN RAWALE

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the indigenous sugar industry at present passing through crisis; (

(b) if so, the factors responsible for their state of affairs; (

(c) the details of production, consumption and import of sugar during each of the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken to safeguard the interests of sugar industry?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD)

(a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The production, consumption and Import of sugar during the last three sugar seasons (from 1st October to 30th September) is given below :-

Production and consumption of sugar.

(In lakh tonnes)

Sugar Season	Production	Consumption
1996-97	129.05	136.75
1997-98	128.44	139.78
1998-99	155.20	141.45

excludes consumption of imported sugar.

Import of sugar (In tonnes)

Year	Import of Sugar
1996-97	2,131
1997-98	3,46,905
1998-99	8,57,691

(Source DGCI&S Calcutta)

(d) Government has recently taken several steps to safeguard the interest of sugar industry as indicated below:

(i) Government has imposed regulated release mechanism on importers of sugar vide notification dated 22.11.99 read with notification dated 29.12.99.

(ii) Government has imposed levy obligation of 30% on importers of sugar vide notification dated 17.2.2000.

(iii) Government has reduced the levy obligation on domestic producers of sugar from 40% to 30% with effect from 1.1.2000.

(iv) Government increased the customs duty on imports of sugar from 25% plus 10% surcharge to 40% on 30.12.99 and it has been further increased to 60% with effect from 9.2.2000 along with continuance of countervailing duty of Rs. 850/- per tonne.